IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Amend the paragraph at page 3, line 16, to page 4, line 6, to read as follows:

In another preferred, but non-limiting, embodiment the radionuclide is contained in the composition to be stabilized at least partially complexed by a complexing moiety. Examples of complexing moieties and compositions containing complexed radionuclides which can be stabilized according to the invention include those described in each of U.S. Patent Nos. 5,783,170; 5,807,537; 5,814,297; 5,866,097; and 5,262,175 discussed above. One preferred type of complexing moiety is a thiol group-containing moiety such as of the following formula:

a'

$$A—CZ(B)—[C(R^1R^2)]_n—X$$

wherein A is H, HOOC, H_2NOC, (peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody)-NHOC, (peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody)-OOC or R^4; B is H, SH or —NHR^3, —$N(R^3)$-(peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody) or R^4; X is SH or —NHR^3, —$N(R^3)$-(peptide) or R^4; R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are independently H or straight or branched chain or cyclic lower alkyl; n is 0, 1 or 2; and Z is H, SH or R^4; provided that: (a) where B is —NHR^3 or —$N(R^3)$-(peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody), X is SH and n is 1 or 2; (b) where X is —NHR^3 or —$N(R^3)$-(peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody), B is SH and n is 1 or 2; (c) where B is H or R^4, A is HOOC, H_2NOC, (peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody)-NHOC, (peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody)-OOC, X is SH and n is 0 or 1; (d) where A is H or R^4, then, where B is SH, X is —NHR^3 or —$N(R^3)$-(peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody) and where X is SH, B is —NHR^3 or —$N(R^3)$-(peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody); (e) where X is H or R^4, A is HOOC, H_2NOC, (peptide)-NHOC, (peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody)-OOC and B is SH; (f) where Z is methyl, X is methyl, A is HOOC, H_2NOC, (peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody)-NHOC, (peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody)-OOC and B is SH and n is 0; and

a1 cancel

(g) where Z is SH and X is SH, n is not 0; and wherein the thiol moiety is in the reduced form and the complexing group is preferably capable of being covalently linked to a peptide, oligonucleotide, or antibody.